

Message Text

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64

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10

IO-14 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 RSC-01 FEA-02 AEC-11 EB-11

INT-08 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 SS-20 FPC-01 COME-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6084

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

UNCLAS PARIS 1242

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, JAP

SUBJECT: URANIUM ENRICHMENT: EURODIF TO GET LARGE JAPANESE ORDER

REF:TOKYO 0238

SUMMARY: UNCONFIRMED PRESS REPORT CORROBORATES REFTEL THAT
JAPANESE ARE NEAR AGREEMENT TO BUY 1.0 TO 1.5 MILLION SWUS ANNUALLY
FROM 1980 TO 1990 FROM EURODIF. END SUMMARY.

1. LE MONDE OF JANUARY 13 QUOTED JAPANESE INDUSTRIALIST CIRCLES
THAT JAPAN IS PREPARED TO BUY BETWEEN 1.0 AND 1.5 MILLION SEPARATIVE
WORK UNITS FROM EURODIF ANNUALLY FROM 1980 TO 1990 THE FRENCH
AND JAPANESE WILL RETURN TO THE NEGOTIATING TABLE ON JANUARY
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21 IN TOKYO TO IRON OUT THE DETAILS OF THE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE
ORIGINALLY MADE WHEN TANAKA VISITED PARIS. ARTICLE STATES,

ACCORDING TO THE AGREEMENT, JAPAN WILL BUY A SIXTH OF EURODIF'S PRODUCTION AT FULL CAPACITY OF 9 MILLION SWU -- AT A PRICE OF 57 DOLLAR PER UNIT.

2. ARTICLE ALSO REPORTS THAT USSR HAS JUST OFFERED TOKYO OPPORTUNITY TO BUY 300,000 TO 400,000 SWU'S ANNUALLY, BETWEEN 1976 AND 2000 AT A PRICE BELOW THE AMERICAN PRICE. ARTICLE CONCLUDES THAT JAPANESE STILL HAVE UNFULFILLED NEEDS FOR WHICH THEY COULD TURN TO URENCO, OR AGAIN TO EURODIF OR THEY COULD "BECOME THE CLIENT OF AUSTRALIA".

3. ON FOLLOWING DAY, BUSINESS DAILY LES ECHOS COMMENTS THAT PROPOSED JAPANESE PURCHASE ELIMINATES NEED TO BUILD AND INTERMEDIATE STAGE AND THAT EURODIF IS NOW MORE CONCERNED WITH THE PROJECT TIMETABLE THAN WITH THE PROCUREMENT OF ORDERS. LIKE LES ECHOS INCLUDES PUZZLING COMMENT ABOUT JAPANESE DEALING WITH AUSTRALIANS TO FILL REMAINING ENRICHMENT NEEDS.

4. COMMENT: THE CEA COULD NOT CONFIRM REPORT. STONE

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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